

REMARKS

With this amendment, claims 1-14 and 26-40 are pending in the application. Claims 1 and 26 are the only claims in independent form, and these claims have been amended by way of this amendment. Support for the amendments to claims 1 and 26 is found throughout the specification and illustratively including page 10, lines 20-24. As such, it is submitted that no new matter has been added to the application by way of this amendment. Currently, claims 1-14 and 26-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, with regard to a lack of antecedent basis for “the conductor” and “at least one electrical conductor” as being indefinite. Additionally, with regard to independent claim 26, the lack of antecedent basis was noted for the phrase “the electrical conductive contacts” as well as “the conductor”. By way of this amendment, claims 1 and 26 have been amended to address these formalities and as such, Applicant submits that the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is no longer proper and respectfully requests that it be withdrawn.

Additionally, the pending claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Bonner et al. (U.S. 5,968,086).

Consistent with the Examiner’s remarks found in Paper No. 041105, page 3, Applicant has amended the claims to state with greater clarity that the passive conductor recited in independent claims 1 and 26 is “electrically separated from the implanted stimulus generator.” As the Examiner has correctly noted that this concept is not taught in Bonner et al., Applicant submits that the pending claims are not anticipated by Bonner et al.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection as to the pending claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Bonner et al. is solicited.

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Reply to Office Action of April 13, 2005

Summary

Claims 1-14 and 26-40 are the claims pending in this application. By way of this amendment claims 1 and 26 have been amended. Upon entry of this amendment, all of the claims are believed to be directed to allowable and patentable subject matter. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Avery N. Goldstein
Registration No. 39,204
Gifford, Krass, Groh, Sprinkle,
Anderson & Citkowski, P.C.
2701 Troy Center Drive, Suite 330
P.O. Box 7021
Troy, MI 48007-7021
(248) 647-6000

Attorney for Applicant

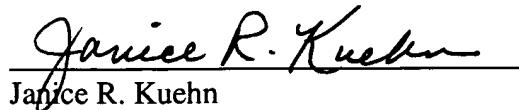
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Janice R. Kuehn